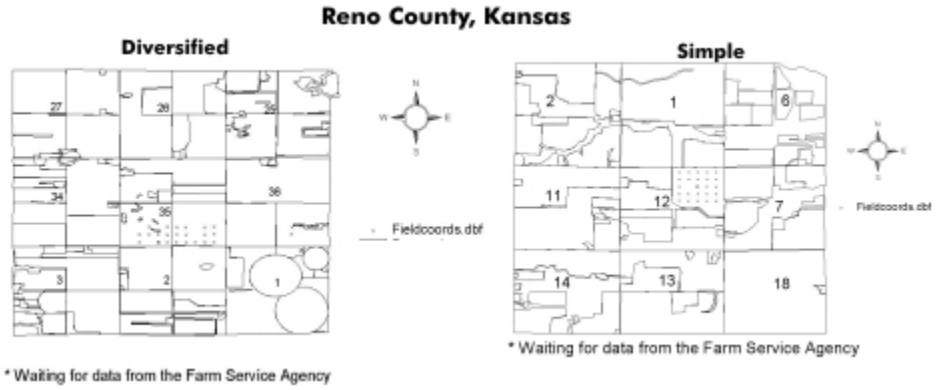
e. Kansas Demonstration Site

Phase II, Year 1 (2002-2003)
Prepared by Michal Roberts



Kansas had two field sites located in Reno County, Kansas. One (wheat only) represented an area in which a large percentage of the wheat is grown continuously. The other (diversified area) was located in an area where wheat is often rotated with other crops (sorghum, sunflowers, soybeans) in a more diversified cropping system. In fall 2002, both fields were mapped and gridded with 25 grid points and 4 benchmark areas. In the diversified area wheat was planted into wheat stubble, followed by sorghum. The fall 2003 wheat planting was made in a field planted to soybeans in the summer 2003.

Soil samples for soil fertility assessment and available soil moisture were taken at planting. Dr. Peeper of Oklahoma State University made the weed assessments in both fields. Fields were sampled for pest and beneficial insects at biweekly intervals throughout the growing season, weather permitting. Data was placed into a handheld unit and problems were encountered in retrieving the data due to corrupted software. This technical difficulty is currently being address by the software company.

Although our data is currently trapped in a software glitch, we detected no pest pressure in either field. There were only a few greenbugs (GB) and bird cherry oat aphids (BCOA) noted throughout the season. No Russian wheat aphids were found. Initially in the spring we detected no pests, and a few beneficial insects. Later in the season (late May to early June), beneficial insect and spiders were present in significant numbers; however, only a few or no aphids or parasitoids were present.